

June 28, 2020

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH, MILLHOUSEN, IN

Immaculate Conception Parish Community strives to live the Gospel by worshipping God, deepening our understanding of the Catholic Faith, and serving the needs of others.

Bulletin information is due by Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. sisterdonna@millhousechurch.com

Mass Intentions:

June 28 - 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Barbara Sandhage

July 5 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Carolyn Schoettmer

July 12 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Living and Deceased Members of the John Joseph Koors family

July 19 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cathy Wittkamper

July 26 - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Barbara Sandhage

August 2 - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Carolyn Schoettmer

August 9 - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cathy Wittkamper

August 14 - (Vigil) The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Albert Naderman Friday evening, 7:00 pm

August 16 - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Barbara Sandhage

August 23 - 21st Sunday In Ordinary Time - Kathryn Schoettmer

August 30 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Albert Naderman (First Communion Sunday)

Please remember that the dispensation from attending Sunday liturgy has been extended for **all** of us until **August 15th**. And, a gentle reminder that everyone over 65 years of age is strongly encouraged to stay home until that time. That includes all those, of any age, who are ill or in doubt about their own good health. When in doubt, please stay home. We need to be able to track an outbreak, so we will ask each person who enters, to **sign in**, checking off your name and phone number from an alphabetized list. If you don't find your name on the list, please sign the paper and write in your phone number so you can be contacted if needed.

Each person is also asked to wear a **mask** at all times within the building, and each person, young and old is asked to **sanitize hands** as they enter the church (or any of our buildings.) Those are givens. Once we have entered the church with those three steps, the newly trained ushers assigned, will assist you to your seat, observing **safe distancing** for all. Please make their job as easy as possible and follow their directions. As our crowd increases, this becomes all the more important.

A reminder: we are **not using or touching the kneelers** in church. We know this is a very difficult habit to break. But for the present time, we will only stand, genuflect and sit. The purpose for omitting the kneeling posture is one of sanitation. Not all churches will be omitting this gesture. But those with cloth kneelers are strongly encouraged to do so. The cloth coverings are hard to sanitize. Moisture gets into the cloth and sits there, eventually creating a risk for mold and mildew. We will do our best to keep everyone safe, but this is one area where we need your help. Please refrain from touching or using the kneelers at all times.

Call the office anytime to add or remove names, to this prayer list, or to give any information you may want posted to the parish. Also, please call to have your name added to the list of those wishing to receive communion in your own home. Our Eucharistic Ministers will gladly serve that need.

Remember in Prayer: Nell Ann Pfeifer, Larry Smith, & Judy Zapfe

We are most grateful for your continued financial support. Thanks to those who mail or drop off checks. Because there is no Collection being taken up by the ushers, we ask that you place your envelopes in the basket as you enter or leave. **On-line Giving:** For those who may have misplaced the link, the on-line giving site is: www.archindy.org/Giving. Choose Immaculate Conception, Millhousen, from the drop-down menu. You have the option for one time giving, or may set up a weekly, monthly or quarterly option for automatic deductions.

Stewardship of Treasure: Our Sunday Collections: June 21, 2020

Needed each weekend to meet budget:	\$2,800.00
Sunday Envelopes (and loose):	\$1,911.00
Cemetery Fund:	\$30.00
Maintenance Fund	\$20.00
Education of Future Priests	\$20.00
Steeple Fund	\$85.00
Total Collections:	\$2066.00

Reminder: Special collection this morning for **Peter's Pence** – the works of the Holy Father. The envelope is in your box. In addition, we need funding for our operational expenses, gas, electric, water, internet, phone, mowing, cleaning, and supplies. Over the past few months of uncertainty and turmoil, our general Sunday collections have suffered greatly. Now would be a very good time to help turn that around. Thank you for all the ways that you give!

Concerning all meetings or gatherings: if you are 65 or beyond, or in compromised health, please observe the stay-at-home orders. Nothing on our agenda is more important than each one's health and safety. We encourage the use of **face coverings** for all gatherings to protect the other. And we will stay six feet apart.

Dates to Remember: Meetings continue in an effort to get everyone updated to the new responsibilities of ministry in this time of change. Thanks to all of you who have come forward to learn and to volunteer! Many opportunities have been provided for learning, but if you are interested in beginning or continuing in a church ministry, and have missed the opportunities presented, please call the parish office. Only those folks who have been updated will be placed on the new ministry list, due out next weekend.

Upcoming meetings include:

July 2 - Buildings & Grounds - Thursday evening, 7:00 pm, in the school

July 14 - **Church Cleaning** Chair persons - Tuesday evening, 7:00 pm in the school. Please call LaDonna to let her know of your willingness to continue in this capacity or your need to decline. But in the meantime, please reserve the date. Even if you are unable to continue due to age or health reasons, we need your insight.

July 19 - Finance Committee - immediately following Mass, Office Meeting Room

July 26 - Parish Council - immediately following Mass, in the school

July 29 - Confirmation Candidates, 7:00 pm, in the school

First Communion - August 30 at the Sunday morning Mass. These children are prepared and waiting!
Witness their excitement, their reverence, their spirit of prayer.

Confirmation: We received notification this week that Confirmation for our youth will take place as originally planned, at St. Mary's Greensburg. Only the date has changed. The celebration will take place on Saturday morning **August 8th**. Seating will be limited due to social distancing, so we ask for your support and understanding. Each candidate will be allotted a given number of seats and only those personally invited will be able to attend. We are reminded that the service is to be brief, simple, and in line with current parish protocols for sanitation and social distancing. We will keep you posted. Candidates will be asked to meet with Sister Donna to validate readiness for this sacrament, to receive updates, and to recreate the energy that was present when we parted in March. Candidates please gather in the school basement on July 29th at 7:00 pm.

Reminder: our Church property remains closed for all but essential meetings or activities. We know it will be hard to come to Mass and not socialize, but that is exactly what is being asked of us at this time. We are not to gather in huddles outside of church before or after Mass, nor at any time. We are not to promote any activity that calls us together. Times are so changed! All gatherings, inside or outside of our buildings, all on church property, are subject to following all possible health and safety protocols, which include face coverings, sanitation procedures, essential and frequent hand washing, in addition to continued social distancing. Social gatherings will eventually follow, but not yet . . .

The July Church cleaning committee: Cindy Hermes (chair), Paula Fry, Melea Gault, Aaron Gault, Stephanie Hoeing, Timothy Hoeing.

On Monday afternoon, June 29th, at 2:00 pm, the **Charism Mass** will take place at the Cathedral. For the first time this year it will not be open to the public, but will be live-streamed instead. This is the perfect opportunity for everyone interested to attend from the comfort of your home. This Mass is traditionally celebrated on the Tuesday of Holy Week. It is the most solemn and sacred time when all priests renew their commitment, and when the sacred oils are blessed and distributed to all parishes for the coming year. Please read more about this special celebration in the Criterion this week. And please try to attend virtually. The ritual will be very “low key” this year, without processions, with minimal music, and much reduced in length and content. But it is a very special celebration uniting all members of the Archdiocese.

Ballots - Because as a parish, we are beginning a new fiscal year on July 1st, it is also the time when we elect new parish leadership as needed. This year all three members of the Finance Committee will continue in their roles. No one’s term expires. But for the Parish Council two members have completed a three-year term. Both members are eligible for a second three-year term, and both are willing to run again. We are grateful for the work and dedication, and on-going commitment of Aaron Gault and Steve AmRhein. If you are interested in serving the parish in this capacity, and willing to submit your name as a nominee, or if you are aware of someone else you would like to nominate, please submit the name or names by Friday morning of this week. The ballots will then be created, and will be attached to your bulletin next weekend. Thank you for considering this important role and service.

Many have been asking about the **“Baby Bottles”** which were given to you on Ash Wednesday to serve as a collection instrument during Lent. Very soon after that the order came to close our doors. As Lent continued, sacrifices were made and change collected. Our Almsgiving this year was to support our local Clarity Organization, serving Moms who are choosing life, and deciding against abortion. Boxes have been provided in the entryway for these baby bottles to be returned. Please bring them in with you the next two weekends, and drop them in the boxes as you enter. Kate Bedel is coordinating this project and will provide information to follow.

We want to take the opportunity, as for the first time in many weeks, we have space remaining: to thank a few people! First off, **thank you to all of the volunteers** who came forward in our time of need. Some volunteered to deliver items to shut ins, and many have come forward to assist in re-opening our parish. We are grateful to ushers, and lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and cleaners. We are especially grateful to Donna and Sarah Schwering who have agreed to sanitize our worship space after each use. That is quite a commitment! And if it were not for them, we would not be able to remain open and functional. Thank you, ladies!

We are also grateful to those who came forward during our time of isolation, to serve in maintaining our parish buildings and grounds. The cemetery committee, the mowers, and trimmers! The planters (LaDonna in particular) and Jessie Hamilton for the new landscaping behind our church, and the long hours of work in getting our cemetery drive initiated. Ken and Steve Stone for installing two new garage doors, and Mike Bedel for installing a new back door to the convent. We own a debt of gratitude to these people, and ask God to bless them one and all!